

CITY OF JERSEY CITY

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MAYOR HEALY TO CUT RIBBON ON YOUTH EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH PROGRAM JERSEY CITY'S COLLEGE PREPARATORY INCENTIVE PROGRAM HELPS LOW INCOME YOUTH

JERSEY CITY -- Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy, members of the Municipal Council, and the Department of Housing, Economic Development and Commerce (HEDC) will cut the ribbon on the new headquarters of the College Preparatory Incentive Program 10:45 a.m. on Friday, May 8, 2009 at 418 Martin Luther King Drive.

The **College Preparatory Incentive Program (CPIP)** is a federally funded **Trio Talent Search** program that helps low income youth and their families understand their educational opportunities. The program was founded in 1992 by James E. Johnson. **College Preparatory Incentive Program** is a **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)** funded project which received significant assistance from the City, **\$556,250.00 in CDBG rehabilitation funds.**

CPIP's focus is to provide young people (grades 6-12) with information about college admissions, requirements, scholarships, financial aid programs, college tours and academic supportive services. Two thirds of the students must have low income status and be first generation college students.

“This program is vital in creating a generation who will possess the critical and creative thinking skills needed to live in a sustainable world,” said **Mayor Healy**. “In providing our youth with academic resources, we are affording them with opportunities of advancement and success. Currently, the project is assisting a large number of youth in Jersey City.”

In 2005, **Goldman Sachs** awarded 3500 square feet of office space, located at 418 Martin Luther King Drive in Jersey City. The previous space occupied by CPIP was only 300 square feet and the new site can now host the provision of educational services for youth. **CPIP** presently assists more than 600 hundred students and their families.

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The partnership with the City of Jersey City and the CDBG funds received has enabled program expansion in which CPIP now has a Computer Center and a Training Center which will be used to help the students in the community develop academically.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.///